

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-01 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 ACDA-05 EB-07

MC-02 OMB-01 /072 W

----- 092360

R 191124Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

T RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7999

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T MBABANE 0825

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MILI, TGEN, UK, US, WZ

SUBJECT: CROWN ROYAL -- GOS REQUEST FOR MILITARY

AID FROM THE U.K.

REF: MBABANE 0664

1. U.K. HIGH COMMISSIONER LE TOCQ CALLED AT HIS INITIATIVE ON MAY 17 TO BRIEF ME ALONG THE LINES REFTEL ON HIS APPROACH TO PRIME MINISTER MAKHOSINI REGARDING U.K. PROPOSALS FOR CROWN ROYAL STATION. LE TOCQ SAID PRIME MINISTER HAD MET WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAHAN AT THE KINGSTON COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE AND PRESENTED A MILITARY SHOPPING LIST WHICH INCLUDED ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILES, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, ARMORED VEHICLES, HELICOPTERS, AND BRITISH TRAINING INSTRUCTORS. ACCORDING TO LE TOCQ, CALLAHAN TOLD PRIME MINISTER THAT HE WAS NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT THE U.K. COULD BE RESPONSIVE. LE TOCQ SEEMS TO FEEL THAT THE GOS REQUEST FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE IS LINKED TO THE U.K. PROPOSAL REGARDING MPAKA.

2. LE TOCQ REGARDS THE SWAZI REQUEST AS "PREPOSTEROUS". HE FEELS, HOWEVER, THAT THE NEGATIVE RESPONSE MUST BE CAREFULLY FORMULATED AND "WRAPPED IN ROSES". LE TOCQ

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TOLD ME HE INTENDED TO RECOMMEND THAT HMG PROVIDE AN

EXPERT TO STUDY SWAZI INTERNAL SECURITY NEEDS. HE
SUSPECTS THAT THE STUDY WOULD MAKE NEGATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS
REGARDING MOST OF THE ITEMS REQUESTED BY THE SWAZIS BUT
SEEMS TO FEEL A CASE COULD BE MADE FOR HELICOPTERS AND
LIGHT ARMOR FOR THE SWAZI ARMY.

3. COMMENT: THE SWAZI REQUEST REFLECTS A DEEP CONCERN
ABOUT THE MONARCHY IN POST-SOBHUZA SWAZILAND AND APPREHENSION
ABOUT THE LEFTIST DRIFT IN MOZAMBIQUE (SEE MBABANE 0823).
BOLEN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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